

Remarks

The Office Action mailed April 15, 2005, has been carefully reviewed and the foregoing amendment has been made in consequence thereof.

Claims 1-6, 8-10, 12-17, 19-21, and 24 are pending in this application, of which claims 1, 3, 9, 12, 21, and 24 have been amended. Claims 2 and 13 have been canceled. Claims 7, 11, 18, 22, 23 and 25-39 are withdrawn. It is respectfully submitted that the pending claims recite allowable subject matter.

The objection to the drawings under 37 CFR 1.83(a) is respectfully traversed. Claim 9 is amended to recite a latch member configured to be joined to the tab member, rather than latch and tab members joined to one another. With the amendment to claim 9 Applicant respectfully submits that the drawings are in compliance with 37 CFR 1.83(a). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

The objection to claim 9 is respectfully traversed. In the Office Action, it is asserted that it is unclear how the latch and tab members adjoin to one another. Applicant respectfully disagrees. It is well accepted that a patent disclosure need not be a treatise or encyclopedia. Rather, it is only required that the disclosure, when filed, contain sufficient information regarding the subject matter of the claims as to enable one skilled in the pertinent art to make and use the claimed invention without undue experimentation, MPEP § 2164.01. Further, a patent need not teach, and preferably omits, what is well known in the art, *In re Buchner*, 929 F.2d 660, 661, 18 USPQ2d 1331, 1332 (Fed. Cir. 1991). Applicant respectfully submits that the specification, and Figures 1-3 of the drawings clearly conveys to one of ordinary skill in the art how the latch and tab members may be joined. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to claim 9 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Nurmi (U.S. Patent 6,608,251) is respectfully traversed. Claims 2 and 13 are canceled.

Nurmi describes an EMI gasket (20) used for sealing and formed by winding a sealing wire with a circular profile for a specific first length clockwise and counter clockwise around a longitudinal axis. When the winding direction changes, the sealing wire is run parallel to the longitudinal axis for a specific second length. The gasket includes a groove parallel to the longitudinal direction of the gasket that receives an edge of the piece to be shielded.

Applicant respectfully traverses the assertion in the presently pending Office Action that the arch-shaped elements of Nurmi are pitched at an acute angle with respect to the centerline. Although Nurmi describes the gasket as “helical spring-like”, it is obvious from Fig. 2a that the gasket is not a helix or spiral. Rather, length is given to the gasket by the “specific second length” that runs parallel to the longitudinal axis of the gasket (col. 3, lines 63-66). Nurmi neither shown nor describes the arch-shaped elements as formed at an acute angle with respect to the centerline.

Claim 1 recites an electrical contact including “a conductor comprising series of arch-shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a centerline, and wherein said arch-shaped elements are pitched at an acute angle with respect to said centerline”.

It is respectfully submitted that Nurmi neither describes nor suggests the apparatus recited in claim 1. Specifically, Nurmi does not describe or suggest an electrical contact that includes arch shaped elements that are pitched at an acute angle with respect to the centerline. Rather, Nurmi describes an EMI gasket that is given length by straight sections running parallel to the longitudinal axis of the gasket.

Accordingly, claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Nurmi.

Claims 3-6, 8, and 10 depend from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claims 3-6, 8, and 10 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent claims 3-6, 8, and 10 likewise are patentable over Nurmi.

Claim 12 recites an electrical connector including “a body having a mating face; and a contact held in said body proximate said mating face, said contact comprising a conductor folded into a series of arch-shaped elements that are formed continuous with one another and

extend along a centerline, and wherein said arch-shaped elements are oriented at an acute angle with respect to said centerline”.

It is respectfully submitted that Nurmi neither describes nor suggests the apparatus recited in claim 12. Specifically, Nurmi does not describe or suggest an electrical connector including a contact having arch shaped elements that are oriented at an acute angle with respect to the centerline. Rather, Nurmi describes an EMI gasket that is given length by straight sections running parallel to the longitudinal axis of the gasket.

Accordingly, claim 12 is submitted to be patentable over Nurmi.

Claims 14-17 and 19-21 depend from independent claim 12. When the recitations of claims 14-17 and 19-21 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 12, Applicant submits that dependent claims 14-17 and 19-21 likewise are patentable over Nurmi.

Claim 24 recites an electrical contact, including “a series of arch-shaped elements arranged adjacent one another along a centerline, each said arch-shaped element includes leg portions and a bridge portion integrally formed with said leg portions, said leg portions being positioned on opposite sides of said centerline, said arch-shaped elements being continuous with one another through linking portions that are integrally formed with said leg portions of adjacent arch-shaped elements, said arch-shaped elements being oriented at an acute angle with respect to said centerline”.

It is respectfully submitted that Nurmi neither describes nor suggests the apparatus recited in claim 24. Specifically, Nurmi does not describe or suggest an electrical contact having arch-shaped elements oriented at an acute angle with respect to the centerline. Rather, Nurmi describes an EMI gasket that is given length by straight sections running parallel to the longitudinal axis of the gasket.

Accordingly, claim 24 is submitted to be patentable over Nurmi.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 102 rejection of Claims 1-6, 8, 10, 12-17, 19-21 and 24 be withdrawn.

The rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated by Nurmi (U.S. Patent 6,608,251) over Chen (U.S. Patent 6,182,835) is respectfully traversed.

Nurmi is described above. Chen describes a mounting device for expansion slot covers. The mounting device(10) includes a body (12) having two elongate parallel arms (12a) and (12b) extending in a lengthwise direction and with depressing portions formed thereon. A pair of pivots (16) are formed on a first end of the body. A grasping portion (18) is formed on a second end of the body for manipulating the device. A locking portion (20) is formed between the body and the grasping portion. The pivots are inserted into holes in the computer enclosure (22) (Fig. 2) while the locking portion engages hooks (42) formed on the computer enclosure to secure the mounting device to the enclosure. Notably, if the mounting device is considered to be formed from a single length of material, then the grasping portion is formed at a central portion of the single length of material rather than at an end.

Claim 9 depends from claim 1 which recites an electrical contact including “a conductor comprising series of arch-shaped elements that are continuously formed with one another and extend along a centerline, and wherein said arch-shaped elements are pitched at an acute angle with respect to said centerline”.

It is respectfully submitted that neither Nurmi nor Chen, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest the apparatus recited in claim 1. Specifically, neither Nurmi nor Chen, considered alone or in combination, describe or suggest an electrical contact including arch-shaped elements pitched at an acute angle with respect to the centerline. Chen describes a mounting device having mounting pivots at the ends and a centrally positioned grasping portion.

Accordingly, claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over Nurmi in view of Chen.

Claim 9 depends from independent claim 1. When the recitations of claim 9 are considered in combination with the recitations of claim 1, Applicant submits that dependent claim 9 likewise is patentable over Nurmi in view of Chen.

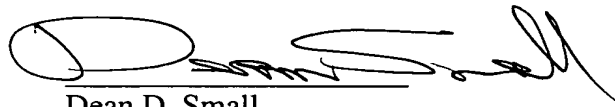
For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully requests that the Section 103 rejection of Claim 9 be withdrawn.

Express Mail No. EV593382541US

Tyco 18094 (AT 20958-1031)
PATENT

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, all the claims now active in this application are believed to be in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dean D. Small', is written over a horizontal line.

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